

The Standard.

RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8, 1854.

WHIG MOVEMENTS.

The Whig Convention for this State will assemble in this place on the 21st instant, and meetings are being held here and there to appoint delegates. We had intended to review at some length the proceedings of the Guilford and Hertford meetings, as it is probable these proceedings indicate with some degree of certainty what will be the action of the Convention itself; but we have been prevented from doing so by the space occupied in our columns by the Comptroller's Report. It is time enough, however, for the arguments on State issues.

The Guilford meeting was moved and managed by that venerable political sinner, John A. Gilmer, Esq. His Resolutions are in entire keeping with his character as a public man—unfair, one-sided, irrelevant to the time, and marked by bitter hostility to Democracy and popular rights. The Hertford meeting was gotten up under the auspices of that most decided and consistent Whig, the Hon. Kenneth Rayner; and these Resolutions, too, are suggestive of the antecedents of the man who drew them. Mr. Gilmer has, for years, shaken in the breeze political between Free Suffrage by legislative enactment and an open Convention on the Federal basis, but any one who will examine his course, and reduce his remarks upon the subject to plain English, must see that his advocacy of Free Suffrage is all pretence, and that his main and most darling object is to upset the existing compromises of the Constitution. His organ, the Greensboro Patriot, loses no occasion to dilate on the alleged inequality of the Senatorial basis, going at times almost into tears (of the crocodile order) over the spectacle, which exists only in the imagination of that interesting party, of one white man in Onslow outvoting five white men in Buncombe. The Patriot pipeth unto Buncombe, but Buncombe listeth not; the Patriot waxeth sad in view of Whig disasters, to be occasioned by the strength of Free Suffrage as a separate and independent measure, and yet no one seriously encourages its melancholy mood; the Patriot resorteth to artistic efforts to arouse the people against what it terms "Reid's hobby," and calleth hard names with as much assurance and particularity as if it had searched the dictionary for its epithets; and yet notwithstanding all this the great West stands where it was on the subject of Constitutional Reform, and Whigery continues to decline, as it began to do, in 1848; in all portions of the State.

Nor is the course of Mr. Rayner on this subject less vacillating or insidious than that of Mr. Gilmer. One of the most timid of our public men, it is natural that he should oppose with caution so popular and powerful a measure as that of Free Suffrage; one of the most ambitious in his own party, it is no matter for surprise that he should so endeavor to shape his action on this subject as to obtain the confidence and enlist in his behalf the prejudices of all sections of the State. The Hertford Resolutions are but the index to his policy; but Mr. Rayner will find, as all temporizing and unreliable politicians have found heretofore, that the people are competent to form their own opinions on public affairs, and that they give their confidence only to such as have shown themselves entitled to it by a straightforward, frank, and consistent course of action.

It appears to be more than probable, judging from the tone of the proceedings of Whig meetings, that their Convention will take ground for a free Convention to amend the Constitution. No one can, however, predict with any certainty what they will do; they may lay down no platform whatever, but content themselves with general declarations and with saving the State with a hurrah and much flashy eloquence on the 22d of February, it being the anniversary of the battle of Buena Vista. Very well—we are ready for any revelations or movements that may be made; and we shall not, therefore, give ourselves undue concern about what our opponents may do or say.

THE DIFFERENCE. It is a significant fact that while Whig meetings in various parts of the State, and many Whigs in the central and Eastern sections, are taking ground for an unrestricted Convention, the Democracy of Western Carolina are standing firmly by Free Suffrage by legislative enactment, and by the basis of representation as it is. The people can here see for themselves the difference between a party which goes for what is deemed expedient for the time, and a party of principle. Aye, the people—for whatever Whig politicians may do or say, the appeal is at least to the people, who can have no motive to do wrong, and who seldom err in their decisions on public questions.

MR. COPELAND, THE ARTIST. We visited Mr. Copeland's room a day or two since, and were much pleased with some paintings which we saw. Mr. Copeland has finished the likenesses of Prof. Deems, Dr. Scott, Mr. Gorman, and Dr. Tompkins; and is now engaged upon the likeness of His Excellency Gov. Reid. He has also made an excellent copy of a likeness of Mr. Moore, deceased, the father of B. F. Moore, Esq.

Mr. Copeland is a native artist of much genius, and we trust he will be liberally encouraged. We are gratified to learn that he expects to reside permanently among us.

Capt. William Nichols, referred to in the Standard of the 7th January, as having died recently in Mississippi, was the architect who designed and executed the very great improvements made upon our old State House, which was completed in 1822, and burned down in 1831. He was an Englishman, eminently skilled in his profession, and traces of improvement introduced by him are now discoverable in every section of the State. The cottage erected a mile north of this City, on the road to Petersburg, by the late Moses Mordecai, Esq., was designed by him, and was the earliest specimen of that order of architecture among us.

New Store. Messrs. W. J. & A. S. LORGE have just completed a store on Fayetteville Street, two doors above B. B. Smith's corner, which is highly creditable to them as enterprising men, as well as to the workmen employed in erecting and finishing it. It fronts twenty feet, and is sixty feet deep. It is an excellent stand for business.

The brick work was executed by Mr. Palmer, the carpenter's work by Messrs. H. & D. Royter, the stone work by Mr. Puttick, the plastering by E. E. Harris, and the painting by Mr. Overby.

We learn that Judges Caldwell and Bailey have exchanged Circuits, at the request of the latter. Judge Bailey will ride the Edenton, and Judge Caldwell the Raleigh Circuit.

COUNCIL OF STATE. We understand Gov. Reid has notified the Council of State to meet in Raleigh on Thursday the 23d of this month.

THE DEMOCRACY IN MOTION.

We publish to-day the proceedings of two Democratic meetings—one in Mecklenburg, and the other in Madison. The Charlotte Democrat says of the Mecklenburg meeting:

"On Tuesday last, the Democrats of this County held a meeting and appointed 20 delegates to attend the Convention to be held at Raleigh, to nominate a candidate for Governor. Capt. John Walker, that unflinching Democrat and able champion of our cause, presided, who, for the short time allowed by the Court, had to content himself with making a very few remarks, briefly setting forth the object of the meeting. The proceedings will be found in another column—which, after an appropriate compliment to our present Governor for the highly satisfactory manner he has discharged the trust reposed in him, expressed the utmost confidence in the determination of President Pierce to meet the high expectations of his friends, and to make his Administration a bright epoch in the history of Democracy, re-affirmed the orthodoxy of the platform of the late State and National Conventions. The Democracy of Mecklenburg are as true as they were in the days of seventy-six. No disorganizer could raise his head on her soil and live. In the coming canvass they will be united to a man, and with an increased majority will send our standard-bearer on his way to the mountains rejoicing."

The meeting did not recommend any particular man as the candidate, but will support the nominee whoever he may be, having the fullest confidence in the patriotism and soundness of the nominating Convention. We trust some of the delegates may find it convenient to attend."

The Madison Resolutions were introduced by that sterling Democrat, J. B. Jervis, Esq., and an excellent speech was delivered by David Coleman, Esq., who is doing "yeoman's service" in the cause. The Madison meeting, it will be observed, expressed a preference for W. W. Avery, Esq., for Governor.

The old Democratic spirit is beginning to manifest itself—the party is what it was, a unit upon all essential points; and this spirit will gather force and fire until the election, not only of a Democratic Governor, but of a Democratic Legislature, if our friends in all the Counties will only prove true to themselves and to their cherished cause. Let us all adhere with more firmness than ever to the maxim—"conciliation, compromise, harmony—everything they for the cause, nothing for men." Let us unite as one man to discourage all disorganization, and let us spare no honest efforts to avail ourselves of all our strength in contests in the various Counties for members of Assembly.

It is highly important that the State Convention should be a full one; and we trust that all the Counties in the State will hold meetings, and appoint delegates who will be certain to attend.

SUPREME COURT.

THURSDAY, Feb. 2. Boyle v. Hanks, from Washington, argued by Smith for plaintiff.

Pettjohn v. Williams, from Chowan, argued by Bragg and Heath for plaintiff and Biggs and Smith for defendant.

White v. Costin, from Chowan, argued by Heath for plaintiff and Bragg and Smith for defendant.

Spruill v. Lix Insurance Company, from Washington, argued by Heath for plaintiff and Smith and Busbee for defendant.

Spruill v. Davenport, from Washington, argued by Smith and Heath for plaintiff and Moore for defendant.

FRIDAY, Feb. 3. Moore v. Piercy, from Chowan, argued by Smith and Heath for plaintiff.

McKonkey v. Gaylord, from Washington, argued by Heath and Smith for defendant.

Anderson v. Holloman, from Hertford, argued by Bragg for defendant.

Gilliam v. Wiley, in equity, from Gates, argued by Moore for plaintiff and Bragg, Heath and Smith for defendant.

Johnson v. Chapman, from Craven, argued by J. B. Jervis for plaintiff and Donnell for defendant.

McBane v. Patrick, from Guilford, argued by Miller for plaintiff and Bryan for defendant.

SATURDAY, Feb. 4. Rives v. Guthrie, from Chatham, argued by Winston for plaintiff and Manly and Bryan for defendant.

City of Raleigh v. Sorrell, from Wake, argued by Miller and Moore for plaintiff and E. G. Haywood for defendant.

Melton v. Jones, in equity, from Surry, argued by Miller for plaintiff and Winston for defendant.

Clement v. Clement, in equity, from Davidson, argued by Winston and H. C. Jones for plaintiff.

Tinnen v. Womack, in equity, from Chatham, argued by Bryan for plaintiff and Winston for defendant.

MONDAY, Feb. 6. Moye v. May, in equity, from Pitt, argued by Moore for plaintiff and Biggs for defendant.

It may be interesting to our readers in the City and neighborhood to know that the ladies have formed an Association, whose object it is, by a personal visitation of its members, to place a Tract, once a month, in every family in town and the vicinity that will receive it. This Association, we understand, is made up of members without regard to denominational distinctions; its design is to carry on more in detail the same benevolent work that has been prosecuted, with so much success on a general plan, by Rev. Mr. Crowder, the Colporteur of the American Tract Society. Such organizations not only exist, but have been in operation for many years, with more or less efficiency, in the principal Cities and large towns throughout the Union. Some of them employ City Missionaries for the supervision of the Tract Visitors, but our ladies intend to manage the whole concern themselves, and to prosecute their labors of love as a purely voluntary work. We bespeak for them a hearty reception wherever they go, while all will unite with us in the wish that full success may crown their efforts.

We trust they will not take it amiss if we hint—which we do with all respect—that while they are out "in the high-ways and hedges" on this errand of benevolence, they will not forget to look somewhat into the temporal condition of the heedless and improvident poor, who are scattered in large numbers around the suburbs, and many of them, too, dwelling in such miserable and comfortless sheds in the back-streets and lanes of the City.

The statement that Hon. Geo. E. Badger, of N. C., is opposed to the Nebraska bill is not true. He approves of the provision touching the slavery question, and that is the main point. He had doubts respecting the rights of the Indians, but we understand those doubts are probably already removed.

N. Y. Herald, Feb. 1.

If the above be true, we may expect soon to hear from the Raleigh Register on the subject. If Mr. Badger be for the bill, that paper may very safely take position on the same side. Wonder if Mr. Badger is influenced, as the Register says Judge Douglas is, by a wish to make political capital?

WESTERN RAILROAD. The best Fayetteville Carolinian says: "We understand that the Board of Directors of the Western Railroad are about concluding a contract for building and stocking it entire from Fayetteville to some point in the Coal Fields, with a Company in New York. Under the proposed contract, the work is to be finished within fifteen months from the date of the agreement. We hope soon to be able to give other particulars."

WASHINGTON. The best Fayetteville Carolinian says: "We understand that the Board of Directors of the Western Railroad are about concluding a contract for building and stocking it entire from Fayetteville to some point in the Coal Fields, with a Company in New York. Under the proposed contract, the work is to be finished within fifteen months from the date of the agreement. We hope soon to be able to give other particulars."

WASHINGTON. The best Fayetteville Carolinian says: "We understand that the Board of Directors of the Western Railroad are about concluding a contract for building and stocking it entire from Fayetteville to some point in the Coal Fields, with a Company in New York. Under the proposed contract, the work is to be finished within fifteen months from the date of the agreement. We hope soon to be able to give other particulars."

THE ARABIA ARRIVED.

Advance in Breadth!

HALIFAX, Feb. 4.

The Arabia arrived at her wharf to-day. Flour had advanced one shilling. We quote Canal at 44s. Corn is much better, white being quoted at 51s. and yellow at 50. White wheat had advanced to 13s. Consols declined to 91 and 91 1/2.

THE EASTERN QUESTION. An answer from the Czar determining whether his future course would be for peace or war, was hourly expected when the Asia sailed. It was expected and believed that it would be warlike.

For the Standard.

CHAPLAIN HILL, Jan. 25, 1854.

W. W. HOLDEN, Esq.—Sir: In the Standard of the 14th instant, I have seen some strictures on my analysis, lately published in the same paper. Since "it is the duty of every friend of science to be superior to flight come when it may," I wish to notice the errors into which Dr. Tompkins has fallen in attempting to prove my analysis "entirely incorrect."

Dr. Tompkins assumes that I took only one hundred grains of soil, and therefore argues that I did not take enough. This assumption is entirely gratuitous, and the quantity taken was in every instance sufficient for the correct determination of the ingredients of the soil.

Dr. Tompkins states that the Phosphoric Acid is "estimated to be three one-hundredths of a grain" and is therefore too small a quantity to be detected. This also rests on the assumption that I took only one hundred grains of soil. Even if I had taken only that quantity there would have been nothing at all incredible in stating that the Phosphoric Acid from it had been weighed. For the balance which I used in all these determinations gave with perfect accuracy one one-hundredth of a grain, and I saw a few days ago a balance made by a mechanic of our own country, which will detect less than one one-hundredth of a grain.

The loss which I found—thirty-nine one-hundredths of one per cent—is in no way remarkable. By reference to the analysis of soils made by different chemists, the loss will be found to be sometimes more, sometimes less.

Dr. Tompkins contends that no farmer in our State "with perhaps a few exceptions," would know from looking at the Analysis. All I have to say in reply is, that Mr. Siler wanted the Analysis, and I made it for him.

But I have not classified the soil, and therefore Dr. Tompkins argues that the Analysis is incorrect. Now he must know that the classification of a soil belongs to its Examination and not to its Analysis. There is no need of any farmer calling in the aid of a Chemist to classify a soil. Many do it very readily from simple inspection. And in any case all that is required is to find what per cent of sand is left from washing a known weight of the dry soil. For this purpose one hundred grains is a sufficient and convenient quantity; and the weighing need not be made with a balance capable of detecting "three one-hundredths of a grain."

Further, Dr. Tompkins says that "it requires something for a Chemist to know at present besides originating speculations and hypotheses in the Laboratory, he must have some practical experience in field experiments." There I agree with him. But cannot see what that has to do with proving my Analysis incorrect, or how it comes to be said that "it requires something for a Chemist to know at present besides originating speculations and hypotheses in the Laboratory, he must have some practical experience in field experiments."

Whether or not our State has so justly been styled "the Rip in the Winkle of the Union," as Dr. Tompkins thinks, I leave for others to argue. For with little justice it is applicable to the present "one instance" may be seen from the fact that there is not a Professorship of Agricultural Chemistry in the University of Virginia, the College of South Carolina, or in the University of Georgia.

B. S. HEDRICK.

SENATOR DOUGLAS' GREAT SPEECH. We cheerfully give place in our columns this morning to the following flattering tribute from the Washington Star to the late brilliant effort of Judge Douglas on the Nebraska question.

"We never witnessed more intense and breathless interest manifested at the delivery of a speech in the Senate chamber of the United States, than was seen yesterday. The galleries were jammed with spectators, and the floor of the chamber was crowded with the fair sex. The floor and lobby, too, were crowded with privileged persons comprising a greater show of the acknowledged talent, learning and distinction congregated in Washington than we ever before saw collected in the Senate Hall on such an occasion. Indeed, it was conceived by all to be perhaps as important a Senatorial occasion for the future of the United States as ever took place in the presence of the members of both Houses had hardly determined precisely what position to occupy upon the question, though, as we have before remarked, there can be little doubt that the tendency of political influences at work on them, is such as to render it almost certain that they, in the end, would be found standing with Mr. Douglas on his proposition. The fact of their well-known inclination, however, operated to increase the interest in the scene of the day. All felt, too, that to the senatorial orator himself, the occasion was the turning point or corner of his destiny. For the week before, his enemies, or rather those who, being personally identified with the future of his rivals in both great parties, had been doing their best to create the impression that he had immolated himself by boldly trusting his prospects on the views and principles enunciated in his Nebraska bill. Thus, there were many present who were hoping that he would make a dead failure, in attempting to reconcile the North to the justice and sound policy of his measure. One could hear a pin drop from the beginning to the end of his speech, even for twenty yards out behind each entrance to the Senate and its galleries, where the crowd was as dense as immediately around the bar."

We never saw public men more excited by a speech, than we saw the immediate admirers and friends of the orator himself. They knew well that his future depended in a great measure upon his success in this effort. This is: that had he failed, his prospects for the Presidency would have been more completely destroyed, than ever were those of a distinguished aspirant for that position, by a single faux pas, or halting speech. He has, however, immeasurably elevated himself here; while at the same time he has given the measure a large portion of the victory over his opponents, the vantage ground, in the opinion of his most bitter opponents in this City."

THE Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says:

"The Deficiency Bill is making rapid progress in the House. The Railroad Bill progresses slowly, and there is evidently a disposition in the committee not to trouble the House with many bills. A majority of them, as far as I can learn, will be reported on very early."

Congress will sit here till September, and the next Congressional elections will give the people a chance of passing on the acts which they have passed or failed to pass while in session.

The Pacific Railroad is making progress in committee, and a bill will soon be reported to both Houses. It will be the leading question of the day, and perhaps give rise to a modification of present party arrangements."

SALE OF STOCK. The sale of the stock of delinquent subscribers to the N. C. Railroad was made this place on last Thursday. Many shares were learned, were taken up before today's sale. What was sold averaged about \$19.50 per share. We are informed that there will not be a loss of more than \$500 in the whole of the Guilford subscription.

DEATH OF JOHN W. WATSON, Esq. It is our melancholy duty to announce the death of John W. Watson, Esq., Cashier of the Bank of Cape Fear, who died suddenly last evening from the effects of hemorrhage of the lungs. He has been in feeble health for some time past. He was a most excellent and worthy citizen.

HUGH PATTER. A slave was bought in Richmond a few days since by James W. Bingham, of Hertford, and Augustus Crenshaw, of Charlotte City, for \$1,700. He was forty-four years old, and was insured for \$4,000.

HOUSTON'S WOUNDS, by Dickens. We have received a copy of this capital work. Published weekly by C. G. Loring, at \$2 per annum, by McElreath & Barker.

HOUSTON'S WOUNDS, by Dickens. We have received a copy of this capital work. Published weekly by C. G. Loring, at \$2 per annum, by McElreath & Barker.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN PETERSBURG.

A whole Block of Buildings in Ruins—\$75,000 Worth of Property Destroyed.

SATURDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK.

It falls to our lot this morning to chronicle the most destructive fire that has occurred in our city for many years.

About eleven o'clock last night, the store of Messrs. Morrison & Marable was discovered to be on fire. The flames, specifically communicated to the store of Messrs. Kerr and Marbury, on the north, and each of the buildings was entirely consumed. Messrs. Kerr & Marbury's loss is estimated at \$20,000, which was fully covered by insurance. The stock of Messrs. Morrison & Marable was completely destroyed, only about three-fourths insured. About \$2,000, on deposit with this firm, is now in the ruins, in one of Herring's best iron safes, and we trust, will be recovered. A large portion of the goods of Messrs. Turnbull & Stone were saved, although somewhat damaged by removal. We are gratified to learn, however, that their loss is fully met by insurance.

Immediately after the discovery of the fire in the store of Messrs. Morrison & Marable, a tremendous explosion took place, occasioned by the igniting of several kegs and canisters of gunpowder. The explosion did no other harm than to arouse the city.

The block of buildings consisting of four tenements was the property of Col. George W. Bolling. They were supposed to be worth about thirty-five thousand dollars—fully insured.

The general impression is that the fire was the work of an incendiary. The gentleman who first entered the building after the discovery of the fire states that it was burning about fifteen paces from the front entrance, and might easily have been extinguished with a few buckets of water.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to our noble and energetic firemen. They promptly repaired to the scene of the conflagration, and after battling manfully for hours with the devouring elements under every disadvantage, succeeded, after many hours of giant and untiring efforts in subduing the flames.

An adequate supply of water at the commencement of the fire would have secured the destruction of all the property destroyed.

For the Standard.

PET. DEMOCRAT.

MEETING IN MECKLENBURG.

At a meeting of a portion of the Democrats of Mecklenburg County, held in Charlotte, on the 24th day of January, it being Tuesday of the County Convention, John Walker, Esq., was called to the Chair, and J. M. Hutchinson requested to act as Secretary.

The object of the meeting being explained to be for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the State Convention to be held in Raleigh for nominating a suitable standard-bearer in the next (Governatorial) canvass in this State, the following Resolutions were submitted and unanimously adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the Democrats of Mecklenburg, having unlimited confidence in the truth of the principles of their party and believing them to promote the prosperity and best interests of the Republic, are determined as in times past to rally to their support, and aid in continuing in North Carolina the triumph which they have gained throughout the extent of the Union.

Resolved, That our present Chief Magistrate, DAVID S. REID, by his able and efficient advocacy of Democratic principles and faithful discharge of his official duties, has endeavored simply to the party throughout the State, and in his retirement continues with him the confidence and best wishes of the entire Democracy.

Resolved, That we have confidence in the Democratic Convention, and will cordially support the nominee of said Convention, provided he is sound and reliable upon all the principles of the party as laid down in the platform of the State and National Conventions—the platform of which is hereby endorsed and approved by this meeting.

Resolved, That we have the utmost confidence in the patriotism and soundness of President Pierce upon all questions touching the rights of the States and the South, and that so long as he adheres to the doctrines promulgated in his Inaugural Address and the recent Message to Congress, we will give to his Administration a cordial and zealous support.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint 20 delegates to attend the State Convention, in the City of Raleigh, to join their brethren of the State in their deliberations for the common welfare.

In pursuance of the 5th Resolution the Chairman appointed the following delegates, namely: Jos. W. Ross, R. P. Waring, Richard Peoples, W. W. Elms, B. Morris, J. P. Ross, Caleb Erwin, W. M. Matthews, John Kirk, Wm. Reid, Thos. B. Price, C. T. Alexander, J. B. Kerr, Wm. Black, J. W. Morrow, S. H. Elliott, C. G. Alexander, Williamson Wallace, P. J. Wilson, J. Morris, James Johnston, Wm. Maxwell, J. M. Potts, S. A. Davis, C. B. Cross, Richard Rozzell, Dr. J. S. Gribble, F. H. Maxwell.

On motion, the Chairman and Secretary were added to the list of delegates.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of the meeting be sent to the "Western Democrat" and "North Carolina Standard" for publication.

The meeting then adjourned.

JOHN WALKER, Chairman.

J. M. HUTCHINSON, Secretary.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN MADISON.

At a meeting of the Democratic party of Madison County, held in the Court House at Jewell Hill, on the 17th instant, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to the Democratic State Convention, to be held in Raleigh, in order to nominate a candidate for Governor, Robert Teague, Esq., was called to the Chair, and J. B. Jervis was requested to act as Secretary.

The following resolutions were introduced and read by J. B. Jervis, and after a most excellent speech from David Coleman, Esq., were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That whereas it is proposed to hold a Democratic State Convention in the City of Raleigh at some early day for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of Governor, the Chairman of this meeting be requested to appoint five Delegates to represent the Democracy of Madison County in said Convention.

Resolved, That the Democrats of Madison cling with unchanged constancy to the well known principles of the Democratic party—that they stand unequivocally and uncompromisingly on the "Baltimore Platform," and adhere with unaltered firmness to the great principles of Free Suffrage and popular rights, embodied in the resolutions of the Democratic State Convention of 1848; and that they approve of the Administration of President Pierce; that his antecedents gave us full confidence in the wisdom of his selection by the people; and that every act of his Administration brings us the assurance that we have not been deceived.

Resolved, That the Democracy of this county recognize the peculiar importance of internal improvements in this State, and cordially advocate the extension of the Central Rail Road, East to Beaufort and west to the Tennessee line.

Resolved, That while we expect cordially to support the nominee of the Convention, in the full confidence that he will be worthy our support; and while we cheerfully acknowledge the merits of various gentlemen whose names have been brought forward in connection with the nomination, the Democrats of this county would respectfully suggest the name of W. W. AVERY, Esq., of Burke, as their favorite choice, and as one who, from his character, talents, services, and unflinching devotion to Democratic principles, is in every way worthy to fill the position of Chief Magistrate of the State.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in connection with the nomination, the Chairman, in obedience to the first resolution appointed the following gentlemen Delegates, viz: J. B. Jervis, Dr. John Yancy, Col. J. R. Weaver, Wm. Goldsmith, and James Jack.

The thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Chairman and Secretary, and then the meeting adjourned.

ROBT. TEAGUE, Chairman.

J. B. JERVIS, Secretary.

SALUBERTY. H. A. Board, has been elected Interim, and James E. Kerr, John J. Shaver, Wm. H. Smith, Jas. P. Chambers, John Shuman, J. M. Brown, Andrew Murphy, and John W. Ellis, Commissioners of the new Sanitary Board.

Frugality, like a short and pleasant journey, is attended with much enjoyment and little toil.

From the National Intelligencer.

From the National Intelligencer.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN PETERSBURG.

A whole Block of Buildings in Ruins—\$75,000 Worth of Property Destroyed.

SATURDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK.

It falls to our lot this morning to chronicle the most destructive fire that has occurred in our city for many years.

About eleven o'clock last night, the store of Messrs. Morrison & Marable was discovered to be on fire. The flames, specifically communicated to the store of Messrs. Kerr and Marbury, on the north, and each of the buildings was entirely consumed. Messrs. Kerr & Marbury's loss is estimated at \$20,000, which was fully covered by insurance. The stock of Messrs. Morrison & Marable was completely destroyed, only about three-fourths insured. About \$2,000, on deposit with this firm, is now in the ruins, in one of Herring's best iron safes, and we trust, will be recovered. A large portion of the goods of Messrs. Turnbull & Stone were saved, although somewhat damaged by removal. We are gratified to learn, however, that their loss is fully met by insurance.

Immediately after the discovery of the fire in the store of Messrs. Morrison & Marable, a tremendous explosion took place, occasioned by the igniting of several kegs and canisters of gunpowder. The explosion did no other harm than to arouse the city.

The block of buildings consisting of four tenements was the property of Col. George W. Bolling. They were supposed to be worth about thirty-five thousand dollars—fully insured.

The general impression is that the fire was the work of an incendiary. The gentleman who first entered the building after the discovery of the fire states that it was burning about fifteen paces from the front entrance, and might easily have been extinguished with a few buckets of water.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to our noble and energetic firemen. They promptly repaired to the scene of the conflagration, and after battling manfully for hours with the devouring elements under every disadvantage, succeeded, after many hours of giant and untiring efforts in subduing the flames.

An adequate supply of water at the commencement of the fire would have secured the destruction of all the property destroyed.

For the Standard.

PET. DEMOCRAT.

MEETING IN MECKLENBURG.

At a meeting of a portion of the Democrats of Mecklenburg County, held in Charlotte, on the 24th day of January, it being Tuesday of the County Convention, John Walker, Esq., was called to the Chair, and J. M. Hutchinson requested to act as Secretary.

The object of the meeting being explained to be for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the State Convention to be held in Raleigh for nominating a suitable standard-bearer in the next (Governatorial) canvass in this State, the following Resolutions were submitted and unanimously adopted, to wit: